

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

Contributions to this column are requested from Confederate veterans and other persons familiar with the history of the War Between the States. Narratives of particular engagements and personal adventures are specially requested. All contributions should be sent to The Editor of the Confederate Column, Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va.

(From Charleston News and Courier.)

parations for war, and all hands were employed in the good cause.

On the 9th of January, Mississippi seceded from the Union, and Alabama and Florida on the 19th, Georgia on the 15th; Louisiana on the 26th of 26th. Texas, or rather, the Convention passed the Ordinance of Secession about the 1st of February, but it was not formally ratified by the people until the 1st of March, the anniversary of the raising of the Star flag.

"Star of the West" Episode.

"January 2, between 6 and 7 in the morning, the Star of the West, containing 250 men and supplies, but without artillery, attempted to reinforce Fort Sumter, though but the day before, Captain Pickens had declared that none would be admitted. The ship was in great danger under the direction of Major Stevens, gave her so warm reception, in which Fort Moultrie joined, that she was compelled to leave in search of more hospitable quarters, two of the balls having taken effect. Captain Pickens was so much disappointed, and thought that she was dispatched to the Gulf of Mexico, and on the end of Morris Island and gone back of it through a little creek to reach the harbor. The 1st Maine Cavalry, Irish Volunteers and the Government of German artillery were immediately ordered down to Morris Island to reconnoitre and guard the creek. As they were about 2 miles from the shore received a dispatch from Anderson saying no vessel should go in or out of the harbor, blockading the port, as the guns of Fort Sumter command the entire harbor. What a day of distress that was for W. C. Cushing and his crew, who were in the ship. In that steamer and we dreaded that Anderson should carry his threat into execution. But the order for the troops was countermanded, and he decided they should go around by the

steno River. They started at dark and the night was high, but they did not get there till about 10 o'clock. It returned that afternoon, as all danger of collision seemed to have passed away, and the boats were allowed to go. On Saturday, the 12th, much anxiety was occasioned by the appearance of a schooner about 10 miles off, but whatever was her intention she quietly away, after inquiring where the Palmer was from a sailing vessel.

The Palmer was away on the 13th, and the 14th those five weeks for the first few days "roughing it" in true bush style, sleeping on the ground, and with twenty or thirty crowded in one room, cooking their own food, eating their natural knives and forks, and using their own tools for everything, but they were soon supplied with necessities for the "outer man," and more comfortably housed in a room of comfort for the inner man. Both eatables and drinkables by their friends in the bush country. They all came back at 7 and hearty, and were all much improved in health and person. Their appearance, having enjoyed the holiday, was a great contrast to the withstanding the fatigue and exposure

to the weather; most of the time they were in the open. The weather was dreadful, rainy, foggy, windy and cold. The day agreeable. They came back Sunday, February 12.

**Reasons for Bombardment.**

"During all the time they were away we were constantly expecting a force of men to be attacked. On the evening of January 10, a messenger from Sumter had sent a second dispatch. Governor Pickens, saying he would not allow the Federal government to take this taking of the blockade as a precedent, requesting permission for Lieutenant Hall to pass through with dispatches to Sumter on January 11. Lieutenant Hall, with dispatches from Governor Pickens, went on with Colonel Isaac Hayne, who went to make a formal demand for the surrender of Fort Sumter. His letter to the commander immediately presented to Buchanan, at the earnest solicitation of many of the members of Congress, and of other seceding States. When he did present it he received a most insulting answer as well as false reply.

"The delay was favored by Hayne's delay, the most active preparations were being made to bombard the Gibraltar of South Carolina. Strong batteries were being mounted on Morris Island, at Cumming's Point, Sullivan's Island and Fort Johnson, mounted with the heaviest and other heavy cannon. Floating batteries, and other vessels, and all the foundries were busy casting shot and shell, while the ladies were making the soldiers and made cartridge bags.

"Each day rumor appointed the day of attack, but still the result was the same. The Federal fleet was

ore he arrived here. The Southern Congress met in Montgomery February 1, commissioners from the six seceding States being present. Since that time has been added. A provisional government was formed. The Hon. Jeff Davis was chosen President of the Southern States, and Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, Vice-President. The speaking of Fort Sumter had become a national matter, and a minute later the Southern Congress of the Northern States, Fort Pickens, in Pensacola harbor, and every other garrison, had been ordered to open this time, invested by an army of over 2,000 men from the surrounding States. The attack was expected to hear of its attack, but which was read, and he be the one to strike the first blow in civil war, and, of course, that, too, so many startling influences in fact, addressed into so small a space of time that it is difficult to give an account of the proceedings. I have not all the newspapers to refer to, but I have tried to recall the most important events of the last two months, fraught with the deepest political, nay, national, very existence of our future.

"A peace convention of the border States has been meeting in Virginia, and the delegates from the seceded States. The Virginia State Convention met yesterday, the 13th, but whether Virginia will yet redeem the motto 'no compromise' or whether, subdued by the insidious flatteries of the Black Republicans, she still clings to the sinking fragment of the federal government, yet remains to be seen.

**Davis Inaugurated.**

"February 22. To-day, Jefferson Davis was inaugurated as President of the Southern Confederacy at Mont-

"There are some few ladies who have been made perfectly miserable and nearly frantic by their fears for the safety of their loved ones, but the great body of the citizens seem to be so impressed with the justice of our cause that they place entire confidence in the God of Battles.

"April 3. All yesterday evening and during the night our batteries continued to fire at regular intervals. About 11 o'clock in the afternoon rain commenced and poured on us for hours. The wind rose. It became quite stormy. But this morning rose clear and instantly beautiful yesterday was so misty that we were unable to see what was going on at the forts. The wind was from the west to-day, which prevented us from hearing any firing. We were very anxious to-day to know the meaning of the silence when Uncle J. came to tell us Fort Sumter was on fire. We drove over to Cousin S's, when I had a splendid view of the harbor. The naked eye we could distinctly see the flames amidst the smoke. All the barracks were on fire. Beyond lay the town and the city. The fire off the bar, their masts easily counted. The

did not make the slightest effort to go to Anderson's relief. We could only see when a gun was fired by the smoke. The men were as dead as fish as a man's hand floating for a few moments along the blue sky marked where a shell had burst. Occasionally, when the fire reached the temporary magazines or a shell exploded, an explosion followed which was felt in the city. The scene at Fort Sumner must have been awful beyond description. The men were compelled to retire to the casemates from their exposed situation, many being disabled by our balls. Anderson and the gun until was compelled to retire to the casemates from the fury of the fire on three sides at one time. The men said afterwards that the way they could breathe was by lying flat on the ground in the casemates, for the smoke was still

Both on Friday and Saturday Anderson put his flag at half-mast as a sign of distress. The barracks, being on fire three times, the soldiers and friends took no notice of it and it was not understood by our men, though all sympathized deeply with him and shouted applause every time he fired.

**The Surrender.**

"In the meantime the scene to the spectators in the city was intensely exciting. The Battery and every house, house top and spire was crowded. On Whiting's garden were encamped about fifty cannons of three, four, five, six and twelve pounders placed on the extreme of the eastern promenade. It was thought the vessels might attempt to come in and bombard the city, a workmen and business men

In my infant four twenty-four's directly in front of Cousin S's. With the telescopes I saw shots as they struck the shore and the many crumblings of the coral. Morilla Island and the men moving about the sand hills. All were anxious to see and most had opera glasses, which they coolly used. I then heard a report from Sumter, when they dodged behind the sand hills.

"During the morning a demand for cartridge bags for the Dahlgren guns was made. The elder ladies cut, and the younger girls immediately went to work, all save one, who, when we set out to watch and snore, said:

the welcome cry was heard. "The flag is down" but scarcely had the shout died away when it was reported to have been hoisted again. With a gasp the glass. The staff being shot off, the men hastily fastened just above the parapet, and very soon after, at 1 o'clock, the Stars and Stripes were struck and the white flag floated alone. "We could scarcely believe it at first, but the total cessation of hostilities soon proved it true. The terms granted to the army of South Carolina to a brave antagonist.

"As soon as the surrender was announced the bells commenced to ring. In the afternoon, salutes of the 'magic seven' were fired from the guns of Lady Davis, Schoolship and 'Cadet's Battery' in honor of the most brilliant and bloodless victory in the records of the world."

## Dispatch

### GICAL COLUMN

3-11 (1)

traits by Jansen, are those of Lady Bowyer, (first cousin of Lady Thyme, and daughter of Sir Anthony Aucher,) who possessed such exquisite beauty

as to be called the star in the East. Lady Juxon, daughter of Sir Dudley Digges, first married to Anthony Hammond, Esq., Sir George Juxon, Sir John Dormer, and Sir Dudley Digges, master of the works in the time of Charles the First. The remaining portraits are those of Sir John Smith, who retook the royal standard at the battle of Edgehill; Sir John Boyes, the gallant defender of Donnington Castle against the Parliamentary army; the Lord Chancellor Egerton on copper; John, second Earl of Bridgewater, by Claret, very fine, etc.

Immediate ancestor, according to Goddard, was a West Indian, by whom it was purchased of the late Thomas Heron, Esq., brother to Sir Richard Heron, Bart. This gentleman, under the authority of an act of Parliament, had himself purchased the Honour, Manor, and Castle of Gillingham, with their appurtenances, from the Colebrookes, who, in the year 1724, had bought them of Colonel Thomas Bridges, a descendant from the celebrated

latter of whom had married one of the four daughters and co-heiresses, Sir Thomas Kemp, of Ollantigh, and in her right became possessed of one-fourth of these demesnes in 1607, and shortly afterwards had the whole conveyed to him by the respective husbands of his wife's sisters. Sir Dudley Digges erected the present mansion, which was completed for his residence, about the year 1616, it is a venerable brick edifice, but singular in its form, which is an irregular polygon. The upper windows command some fine views over the vale of the Stour, and adjacent country.

At a short distance from the house

towards the northwest, stands the remains of Chilhnam Castle, concerning the origin of which a great deal of archaeological argument has been advanced by the late Mr. Edwards. In the third volume of his *Munster Antiqua*. That it was built upon a site which had previously been occupied by the Romans, and, perhaps, by the Britons, is extremely probable; but whether it ever kept was ever the residence of King Luath, or Hengist, or Wlred, is an assertion which the construction of the name itself completely refutes. The name is undoubtedly a "tradition, current among the people

ye great body of ye Commonwealth  
unless the Inferior orbe of their estates  
were advanced thereby, he was satisfi-  
ed, good may can deserve hon-  
ours, though ye worst may attain  
them. His noble soul could not stoop  
to ambition, nor be beholding to ye  
(though omst generous) vice, for an  
ease to exercise his virtues; out of  
such apprehensions.

At a place now called Old Wives  
Lees, in Chilhnam Parish, but formerly  
Oldwood's Lees, from an owner of that  
name, is an annual race between young  
maldens and bachelors "of good con-  
dition" between the ages of six-  
teen and twenty-four; the two vic-  
tors, a maid and a bachelor, being en-  
titled to the sum of ten pounds each  
under the will of Sir Dudley Digges.  
The race is run on the 19th of May,  
and is generally attended by a large  
concourse of people, both of gentry  
and others.

**A Biographical Dictionary of the Judges  
of England—1604-1870.**

Digges, Dudley, whose pedigree, pre-  
pared by himself, commences in the  
reign of Henry III., was the son  
of Leonard Digges, "haskinn" mather

"mathematicum," and the son of Thomas, "mathematicum insignissimum," by Anne, the daughter of Sir Warham de Gentlesger. Both of these progenitors, so eminent for their mathematical studies, were resident at Digges Court, Barham, in Kent, where Sir Dudley was born in 1833. He was entered a gentleman commoner of University College in Oxford, where he took the degree of B. A. in 1861, and in the multitudinous distribution of honors by King James, he was knighted soon after the accession.

born in 1604, to 1611. Part of his early time he spent abroad, and in 1611 he is mentioned as "busy with the discovery of the northwest passage," and in 1612 moving "every stone to obtain employment." In 1613 (1611), 96,225.) He was subsequently employed on a mission to The Hague. Whether he then held any office at all is uncertain; but he probably did so in 1614, when he defected, and joined the trial of Weston, the ambassador of Sir Thomas Overbury, that the knight had imparted to him his readiness to be employed in an embassy to Russia, to which the King had appointed him. He was a gentleman of the King's privy chamber, and for he is so described in a commission of that date appointing him "ambassador to the great duke and lord of all Russia," and concerning a loan of money from the King to the czar, on voyage, in which John Tradescant accompanied him as a naturalist, there is a MS. account preserved in the Ash-

In the Parliament of 1621, so fatal to Lord Chancellor Bacon, Sir Dudley sat again for Tewkesbury, and was one of the committee that brought forward the charges against the noble delinquent. Though he seems to have taken altogether a moderate and conciliatory part, the King thought otherwise, for, though a member of the

The "ill-tempered spirit" mentioned among the lords, was Sir Dudley, in consequence of his proclamation on the dissolution, whom he committed to the Tower. Sir Dudley and a few others were punished by being sent into Ireland on a military service. The others were dismissed from their penal employment. In February, 1623, receiving each thirty shillings a day for 124 days, from October 28, when they entered on their commission. (Fell Records, 264.)

Archbishop Abbot, in his narrative, says that Sir Dudley had been "a great servant" of the Duke of Buckingham, who, he presumes, lost his friendship for some unworthy carriage offered to him, and also alludes to Sir Dudley being committed to the fleet and kept there for some time. The Duke, without any known reason for his imprisonment. (Rushworth, I, 450.)

It is apparent that these two persons bore great illwill towards each other, for Sir Dudley, in the second article of impeachment against the Duke, was named as one of the most active managers of the impeachment against the Duke. In the conference with the lords, hav-

ing made some allusion to the plaister administered to the late King, Buckingham endeavored to fasten upon him expressions which were little less than treason to the present King, and thereupon obtained his committal to the Tower. There was evidently a wilful misrepresentation of the words used, and on the murmured resentment of the Commons, Sir Dudley was released after three days' detention (Whitlock, p. 100). In the next year he suffered another imprisonment on the feet, for some "unfitting words" at the council table. (Cal. St. Bees,

In Charles III's Parliament (1629), Sir Dudley was returned for the county of Kent, and took a prominent part in forwarding the petition of Right, being appointed to open the conference with the peers on the subject. The lord president in reporting to the house described him as a "man of volubility and elegance of speech". This parliament was angrily dissolved in March, 1629, and the next

was not filled until eleven years afterwards. In the interim, Sir Julius was employed in the management of a version of his office of master of the rolls had been granted to Sir Humphrey. In May, an old officer and constant supporter of the duke, was appointed. In fourteen months, the reversion in the following November (1680) was granted to Sir John Digges, who, though a strenuous advocate of the liberty of the subject, had, since the death of his enemy, the duke, shown himself a ready supporter of arbitrary measures, and had probably resumed his connection with the court. On obtaining this grant he entered himself in the service of the duke, as clerk of the inn, and, honoris causa, was immediately made a benchet. He had to wait for nearly five years and a half

the meantime he was admitted one of the masters in chancery on January 23, 1831. He thus had a slight opportunity of acquiring some professional knowledge, for neither he nor Sir Humphrey May, having never studied any branch of law, could from their legal experience found any claim to the judicial seat. On Sir Julius's death, on April 18, 1836, Sir Dudley Ryder was appointed to the office of one of his co-judges, in which during the three years of his possession there is no account.

He died on March 18, 1693, and was buried in the parish church of the castle of which he acquired by his marriage with Mary, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir Thomas Kempe, of Oxford. He was a learned man, was intelligent, eloquent and ready as a public man, and pious, amiable and devoted to his family. He published "A Defense of Trade" during his life, and was the author of "The Comedie Ammassante," printed after his death. The family is famous in literature: his brother Leonard was an accomplished poet, and in connection with him, the name of the family is his commendatory verses, which have been often reprinted; and his third son, John, was a noted poet and linguist. His grandson, Sir Maurice Digges, received a baronetcy in 1666, which became extinct within the year. He died in 1684; Pauli, 1680, 1681, Hist., vii. 265.

**The Historian's History of the World**—England, 1485-1642. Volume XIX. 1628 A. D. page 541. The Impeachment of Buckingham, by Henry St. John, 1711.

About this time, when many persons

was obliged to set the two members at liberty.

On the other side a Mr. Moore was thrown into prison by the House of Commons on a complaint by the King, that he had refused to do homage and remain so. If the King will not serve his kingdom," "We have a plous way to make him," said the Duke of Charles granted the release of Moore.

1624. A. D. page 551.

At this moment, just as Elliot was going to enter into a particular disquisition on the subject of the Almon, the speaker, very unexpectedly declared that he had orders to interrupt every person in the King's presence who speaks unfavorably of the King.

Mr. Dudley Digges exclaimed: "If we are to speak of such things in the Parliament, we shall have no room to remain mute and idle here."

Mr. Daniel Rich said: "We must not be silent, we must speak, and thereby save ourselves, to plunge the King and state into ruin."

"It is not the King," said Coke, who forbade it, to dissolve the advice of Parliament, but the Duke of Buckingham.

1620—Page 104. Outbreak of the  
Thirty Year War.  
He hoped to ensure by a war with  
Spain the very benefits which he hoped  
from a Spanish alliance. Perrot,  
Digges, Phillips and Coke all gave ex-  
pression to general hate and fear of  
a Spanish King.  
First and second Parliament. Page

On May 8 (1626), the managers for the House of Commons, among whom Sir Dudley Digges and Sir John Elliot were the chief, carried the articles of impeachment up to the House of Lords.

leged to justify his imprisonment. The King thereupon released Digges. The second Parliament had given Charles nothing, and his poverty was sharper than ever. A loan of 100,000 pounds was demanded. In order to ensure favorable answer, several leaders of the opposition, including Digges, Elliot and Wentworth, were put out of the commission of the peace. But the nation was so little in the mood to give that the sum received

1639—For Charles River, Hugh Gwyn.  
1641—For Charles River, Mr. George Ludlow (of Tyndall's Point).  
1646—For York county (i. e., Gloucester), Hugh Gwyn.

1654—Thomas Brenier, Wingfield Webb.  
1655—Captain Thomas Ramsey, Abraham Iverson.  
1657-8—Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Elliott, Captain Thomas Ramsey.

tain Thomas Walker,  
1664—Winfield Webb,  
1686—Adjutant-General Peter Jen-  
ings and Thomas Walker,  
1675—Augustine Warner,  
1678—Matthew Kemp (also Speaker)  
Hening.

1696-7—James Ransome. Mordecai Cooke.  
1700—Peter Beverley.  
1702—Peter Beverley (Speaker)  
Mordecai Cooke.  
1708—Peter Beverley.

1720—Henry Willis, Nathaniel B  
well (died 1720).  
1722—Giles Cooke (in place of Bu  
well).  
1723—Giles Cooke, Henry Willis.  
1728-34—Henry Willis, Frank  
Willis.  
1734-40—Francis Willis, Lawrence

Wills (in place of Samuel Buckn who accepted that year a position profit).  
1749—Beverley Whiting, Fran Wills.  
1752—Beverley Whiting, John Pa.  
1755—John Page, Thomas Whitt

1775—Thomas Whiting, Lewis B. well, and in the convention of 1775. Mainly from Colonial register, by G. Stanard, Virginia Assembly; 181—John Page, Thomas Smith. 1793—James Baytop, John Hughes 1765—James Baytop, John Hughes

1228—James Baytop. Moon Page.  
(Continued Next Sunday)

**The Times Dispatch**  
**GENEALOGICAL COLUMN**

us altar monument, erected by Sir Anthony Palmer, K. B., in memory of Margaret, Lady Palmer, sister to Sir Dudley Digges, who died in September, 1619, in her thirty-third year. It is surrounded by a balustrade.

On the south side of the chancel is a chapel, or monument-room, built by Sir Dudley Digges in the reign of Elizabeth First, and in the vault beneath which he himself lies buried, with many of his family. This apartment forms a square of fifteen feet

With a coved ceiling, highly enriched. In the centre is an elaborate monument, having an Ionic column in the centre, supporting an urn, and at the base, the figures of the Cardinal virtues, as large as life. The inscriptions are on a large tablet, which surround the middle of the monument, and record the memory and virtues of Sir Dudley Digges, and Mary Kemp, his lady,\* together with particulars of their descent. Vol. vii. September, 1890.

Many other sepulchral memorials are in this church. Some remains of painted glass are contained in the windows.

"The epitaph is as follows: 'Sir Dudley Digges, knight, whose death the wisest men doe reckon amongst the publique calamities of these times, on the 18th day of March, the yeare from the Virgin Mother, 1638, hee resigned his spirit into ye hands of his maker, his body to the peaceful shades of earth. In humble confidence he shall awake, and see us all, in immortality, in the dawning of that glorious day wech shall know noe night. Thou mayest behold the grave of his person, not of his memory: what was earthly is sunke down into ye land

Where all things are forgotten, but  
 ye remembrance of his great example  
 will live; though, through age, ye disease  
 of stones as with his men, the wit  
 of men of with the time, the face  
 should dye. The story of his life  
 be ye rule of ours. His understanding  
 few can equal; his virtues fewer will.  
 He was a pious sonne, a careful father,  
 a loving husband, a fatherly brother,  
 a courteous neighbor, a merciful land-  
 lord, a liberal master, a noble friend.  
 When, after much experience gained  
 by travell, and an exact survey of  
 the laws and people of foraine kingdoms,  
 hee had inabled himselfe for ye ser-  
 vice of his country, observing too many  
 just causes of it, and grosse ye publi-  
 cation of it, and the want of them  
 to be raising hindrances to well

1808—Thomas Baytop, Richard Job  
1809—Thomas Baytop, Peter Whit  
1811—Thomas Baytop, William F  
rin. 1228—James Baytop, Mann Page  
(Continued Next Page)